RFP 2042 Vendor Questions

1. Do the 8 proposal copies need to be signed in ink by an officer of the responder or may the 8 proposal copies bear an electronic signature?

   Response: The original proposal must be signed in ink.

2. Do proprietary information requests count as part of the 1-2 page limit for the Executive Summary?

   Response: No.

3. Is the responder required to provide a point-by-point response to the ENTIRE RFP or only sections 3.0 and 4.0?

   Response: Sections 3.0 and 4.0 require point-by-point response. However, be aware that other sections (ex. 6.0) ask for detailed information which will be used in evaluating the proposals.

4. Section 5.2.4 indicates that the cost proposal shall be separately sealed from the technical proposal, while section 4.6.3 indicates that detailed cost proposal information be provided in the technical proposal. Please further define what type of information is being requested by 4.6.3 "Cost of Proposed Solution."

   Response: You may disregard section 4.6.3.

5. How will multiple cost proposals be evaluated?

   Response: All cost proposals submitted will be reviewed during the evaluation process. As referenced in Section 7.1, the State is requesting cost proposals for one year, two years, and three years.

6. For easier reference, may completed Attachments B and C be provided as attachments to the offeror's proposal?

   Response: Yes.

7. Should sections of Attachments B and C that are not applicable in their entirety to the proposed solution be left out of the proposal or included with indicators that the sections are not applicable?

   Response: Please include the sections that are not applicable but indicate that the sections are not applicable.

8. Please describe the existing Electronic PA process that South Dakota utilizes.

   Response: The State receives the claim via the point-of-sale system, the claim is identified as requiring prior authorization (PA), the claim is sent electronically to the incumbent vendor, the claim continues through the proprietary vendor electronic PA system. The approval or denial is sent back to the State for transmission to the pharmacy provider. The PA information is then entered by the vendor into the State MMIS system.

9. Please describe the data that is needed to be received/sent via the real-time connections with the South Dakota MMIS & POS applications.

   Response: For an electronic PA a subset of the claim data is transmitted, ex. recipient, prescriber, pharmacy, and drug information. For manual PA approvals, the vendor must enter the approved PA in the MMIS, this includes the same type of information.

10. Please define the expected volume of claims that will be sent weekly.

    Response: Approximately 115,000 (includes prescription, inpatient, outpatient, clinic, vision, chiropractic, etc.).

11. Please provide some examples of the type of information needed for ad-hoc reports.

    Response: Ad-hoc report requirements vary. An example of a recent ad-hoc report was for the utilization breakdown of prescription drugs by recipients under the age of 21.

12. Does the pharmacist need to be licensed in South Dakota?

    Response: No.

13. Please define the average daily call volume at a minimum but also the hourly average for each day.

    Response: Call volume averages 3-4 calls per hour of operation or 30-40 calls per day.

14. Please define the PA criteria that is loaded into the SD MMIS application.

    Response: PA criteria are established by the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee and vary by drug (ex. Diagnosis of Schizophrenia for an antipsychotic). PA criteria are entered in the vendor system.